

on the backside of the plasma display panel. A plurality of support portions are provided between the first and second chassis members for supporting the two chassis members and for forming a predetermined interval between the two chassis members.

In making this rejection, the Office Action took the position that Tani discloses all of the elements of the claimed invention. However, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the structure of the claimed invention, and therefore, fails to provide the advantages of the present invention. For example, the plasma display apparatus of the present invention is configured to include a plurality of support portions provided between the first and second chassis members, the support portions forming a predetermined interval in between.

As a result of the claimed configuration, by virtue of the interval and support portions, the total area for heat radiation becomes larger, thereby making it possible to obtain an improved heat radiation effect.

As shown in Fig. 21 of Tani, unit 36 includes chassis member 38, plasma display panel 42 mounted on the front face of chassis member 38 and a plurality of circuit boards 46 supported on the rear face of chassis member 38. A thermally conductive medium 44 is formed between the chassis member 38 and the plasma display panel 42. As shown in Figure 21, circuit boards 46 are disposed around the upper central region 54 of the rear face 50 of the chassis member 38. Additionally, the circuit boards 46 are supported by studs projecting from the rear face 50 of the chassis member 38 and are spaced away from a distal end of each of the fins 52 and the rear face 50 of the chassis member 38, so as to not be brought directly into contact with the fins 52 of the rear face 50 of the chassis member 38.

The chassis member 38 is a single-plate structure and is tightly fixed on the backside of a plasma display panel 42. Although a plurality of heat radiating fins 52 are provided on a surface opposite to that tightly attached to the plasma display panel 42, Tani fails to disclose or suggest a plurality of support portions provided between the first and second chassis members for supporting the two chassis members and for forming a predetermined interval between the two chassis members, as recited in claim 1. Tani also fails to disclose a plasma display apparatus wherein the number of support portions located in the central area is larger than that of support portions located in edge areas on the plasma display as recited by claim 3, or that the plurality of support portions are projections formed on the first chassis member as recited by claim 4.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Applicants' invention, as set forth in claim 1, is not anticipated within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102.

As claims 2-5 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that each of these claims incorporate the patentable aspects thereof, and are therefore allowable for at least same reasons as discussed above.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, allowance of claims 1-5, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an

extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 107156-00067.**

Respectfully submitted,
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